Grid discipline and load management on Northern Grid

3894. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI DARA SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Northern parts of the country are reeling under long power cuts and are short of more than 4500 MW of power;

(b) whether it is a fact that northern grid discipline has become a major problem despite directives by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) and the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) to 9 Northern States that are overdrawing; and

(c) if so, the steps his Ministry has taken, till date, to maintain grid discipline as well as load management in northern parts of the country to avoid any major breakdown of the power transmission network?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) The Northern Grid had been operating at low frequency on account of rise in demand due to onset of summer and reduced availability of generation. While the energy requirement and peak demand in the Northern Grid during April, 2006 increased by 5% and 8.3% respectively compared to April, 2005, there was no increase in energy availability and the increase in peak met was 1.4% only during the corresponding period.

(b) In real time operation, States overdraw power from the Grid more than their schedule at one time or other as unscheduled interchange (Ul) depending on availability of generation from their own resources and the demand for power. All the States/UTs in the Northern Region (NR) have overdrawn from the grid of varying degrees during April, 20C6 when grid frequency was 49.0 Hz., against recommended safe frequency range of 49.5—50.5 Hz.

(c) Ministry of Power and Central Electricity Authority discussed the matter with the representatives of State Governments/Power Utilities of Northern Region. All the States confirmed that they shall take all possible steps to ensure that there was no overdrawal of power in order to maintain safety and security of the Northern Grid.

Central Electricity Regulatory Commission has imposed a penalty of Rs. One lakh on UPPCL for undisciplined over-drawal of power during 27th to 30th April, 2006.